GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:377
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2016
Hydrocarbon Exploration
Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to minimise the gestation period for hydrocarbon exploration and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government proposes to bring in new technologies to fasten the process from discovery to production and if so, the details thereof along with the benefits likely to be accrued;
(c) whether the Government proposes to make energy security one of its primary focus area in order to achieve fast and sustainable long term development; and
(d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)
(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the house.
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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 377 BY SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE AND SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2016 REGARDING HYDROCARBON EXPLORATION
a): Government of India has launched a new exploration and licensing regime to boost oil and gas exploration in the country and to reduce gestation period for exploration. The salient features of new Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP) can be brought out as under:
? Single license for conventional and non-conventional hydrocarbons
? Open Acreage Licensing Policy
? Revenue Sharing Contract
? Graded royalty rates for offshore area
? The contractor will be free to sell the crude oil exclusively in domestic market through transparent bidding process on arms length basis.
? The contractor will have freedom for pricing and marketing of gas produced from these blocks on arms length basis.
? There is no levy of Cess on crude oil.
b) Traditionally oil and gas wells are vertically drilled. Technological advancements have allowed operators to save time, reduce operational costs, and lessen their environmental impact. New drilling technologies include the following techniques:
? Horizontal Drilling
? Multilateral Drilling
? Extended Reach Drilling
? Complex Path Drilling
(c) and (d) In order to achieve fast and sustainable long-term development, energy security is one of the prime focus area of the Government. In the year 2015 'Urja Sangam' was organized at New Delhi. The aim of this global hydrocarbon meet was to showcase India's potential in the hydrocarbon sector to create an investor-friendly atmosphere, besides positioning India's thought leadership by creating a new "Energy Security" Platform.
Based on discussions, a committee was constituted for "Preparing a roadmap to reduce the dependency on import in energy by 10% by 2021-22". The Committee has submitted its report which envisages a five pronged strategy (Increasing domestic production, promote bio fuels and renewable, promote energy efficiency and conservation, improvement in refining processes and demand substitution) to achieve the target. The report has been accepted by the Government.
The Government is ensuring energy security by:-
? lowering the requirement of energy
? substituting existing fuels with alternatives
? expanding the domestic energy resource base through unconventional sources like shale gas/oil and gas hydrates
? maintaining strategic reserve oil imports
? acquiring energy assets abroad
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